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Via ECFS  
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to  
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

The very fact that I'm writing this letter to you through the internet is indicative of how ingrained the internet is in our daily lives - it's not a matter of something we want to have, but something we must have in order to participate in the modern world. Allowing a private company such as AT&T to restrict local ISPs from having access to a common good such as copper and fiber cables is fundamentally contrary to your role as the regulatory body for communications corporations - it's your duty to stand in the way of a corporation's unbridled greed. A competitive telecoms market keeps prices for internet access reasonable for people like me who have to balance the need to use the internet at home with other obligations, like the need to have a car to get around town and food in the fridge to feed my family. Not to mention, the multiple options my non-profit organization has when it comes to an internet provider means that we can choose the one that is most affordable, thereby keeping our overhead lower and giving us the flexibility in our budget to focus on providing the services and assistance we provide to our members. Without the self-regulation of a competitive market, we would rely entirely on the government to regulate our one or two options, but with the amount of money the telecoms giants donate to political campaigns, it's not something we count on.

Do your duty - keep the multi-billion dollar telecommunications companies in check and allow local providers to flourish in their areas, and we will all benefit.

Thank you.

Kristan Karinen